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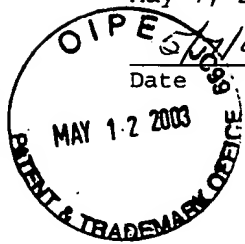
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Patricia A. Baumann
Signature

Date

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. NTI-024

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application)	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u>
)	
Inventor(s): Fang-Cheng Chang et al.)	
)	Art Unit: 2623
Application No.: 09/941,453)	
)	Examiner: Joseph Mancuso
Filed: 08/28/2001)	
)	
Title "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING)	
DUMMY FEATURES ON A MASK LAYER")	
)	
)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)

-- OR --

☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage

-- OR --

☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.

-- OR --

☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. NTI-024).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

Dated: 5-7-08

By: 
Jeanette S. Harms, Reg. No. 35,537

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PTO 08/08A (08-00)
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	Application Number	09/941,453
	Filing Date	08/28/2001
	First Named Inventor:	Fang-Cheng Chang
	Examiner name: J. Mancuso	GROUP: 2623

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Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number NTI-024

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U.S. PUBLISHED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cited No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ² (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Info. Appear
	A01	2001/0004122	A1	Ito	06/21/2001	
	A02	2001/0005619	A1	Hasebe et al.	06/28/2001	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cited No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Number Kind Code ² (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Info. Appear
	B01	5597668		Nowak et al.	01/28/1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cited No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Info. Appear	T ⁶

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.